## UNITED STATES JUDICIAL PANEL on MULTIDISTRICT LITIGATION

CHAIRMAN: John G. Heyburn II United States District Court Western District of Kentucky

MEMBERS: Robert L. Miller, Jr. United States District Court Northern District of Indiana

Kathryn H. Vratil United States District Court District of Kansas

David R. Hansen United States Court of Appeals Eighth Circuit W. Royal Furgeson, Jr. United States District Court Northern District of Texas

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David G. Trager United States District Court Eastern District of New York DIRECT REPLY TO:

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October 16, 2009

Honorable Ann D. Montgomery U.S. District Judge 13W U.S. Courthouse 300 South Fourth Street Minneapolis, MN 55415

Re: MDL No. 2090 -- IN RE: Wholesale Grocery Products Antitrust Litigation

Dear Judge Montgomery:

Attached are: (i) a letter directed to the Clerk of your district advising that the above-referenced litigation has been transferred to you under 28 U.S.C. § 1407 and (ii) a copy of the related transfer order.

As you may know, this office maintains all multidistrict litigation statistics and submits them to the Administrative Office for inclusion in the <u>Annual Report of the Director</u>. Consequently, once yearly we will verify the actual number and status of the actions assigned to you, including actions added to the docket either by transfer of tag-along actions or additional related actions originally filed in your district. You will receive a copy of our annual inquiry to your Clerk.

You may use our Citrix remote access server to access our database for information regarding assigned multidistrict litigation. Our database contains transferor and transferee information for your multidistrict litigation. It identifies counsel who made appearances in the transferor districts, counsel who filed appearances before the Panel and counsel assigned by you as liaison counsel. It tracks each individual action from the date of transfer to termination either by dismissal, remand to transferor district, remand to state court, etc. You may access the server on a Windows based personal computer with DCN access. To use the server, please feel free to contact our Systems Administrator, Al Ghiorzi, to establish a password and receive instructional information.

Your attention is directed to Rule 7.6 of the <u>Rules of Procedure of the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict</u> <u>Litigation</u>, 199 F.R.D. 425, 436-38 (2001), dealing with termination and remand of actions transferred by the Panel. Specifically, the rule states, in part, the following:

- (a) Actions terminated in the transferee district court by valid judgment, including but not limited to summary judgment, judgment of dismissal and judgment upon stipulation, shall not be remanded by the Panel and shall be dismissed by the transferee district court....
- (b) Each action transferred only for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings that has not been terminated in the transferee district court shall be remanded by the Panel to the transferor district for trial....
- (c) The Panel shall consider remand of each transferred action or any separable claim, cross-claim, counterclaim or third-party claim at or before the conclusion of coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings on...suggestion of the transferee district court....

We will promptly act upon any written notices from you that remand of actions or separable claims transferred under Section 1407 is appropriate.

If you appoint liaison counsel, in your pretrial order outlining liaison counsel's responsibilities, please consider reinforcing Panel Rule 5.2(e), which provides:

If following transfer of any group of multidistrict litigation, the transferee district court appoints liaison counsel, this Rule [Panel Rule 5.2, Service of Papers Filed Before the Panel] shall be satisfied by serving each party in each affected action and all liaison counsel. Liaison counsel designated by the transferee district court shall receive copies of all Panel orders concerning their particular litigation and shall be responsible for distribution to the parties for whom he or she serves as liaison counsel.

Thanks for your help. Feel free to contact this office if we may be of assistance to you.

Very truly,

Jeffery N. Lüthi Clerk of the Panel

By Tarrell L. Littleton
Deputy Clerk

Attachments (Separate Documents)

cc: Clerk, United States District Court for the District of Minnesota